

AF/3732

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → +

PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

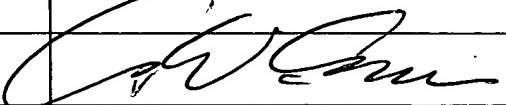
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	09/900,503
		Filing Date	July 6, 2001
		First Named Inventor	HU, LAWRENCE W.
		Group Art Unit	3732
		Examiner Name	SMITH, JEFFREY A.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	23	Attorney Docket Number	GUID-012CON

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

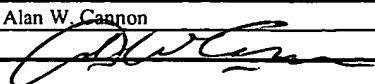
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (In duplicate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Request for entry of Amendment filed May 14, 2003 (1 pg) Copy of Amendment and PTO forms 1449 filed May 14, 2003 (21 pgs.) postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Documents	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual Name	ALAN W. CANNON, Reg. No. 34,977	RECEIVED
Signature		
Date	September 15, 2003	SEP 30 2003
GROUP 3600		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date: September 15, 2003.

Typed or printed name	Alan W. Cannon	Date	September 15, 2003
Signature			

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450.

Typed or Printed Name	Alan W. Cannon		
Signature		Date	9/15/03

REQUEST FOR ENTRY AND CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT FILED MAY 14, 2003	Application No.	09/900,503
	Confirmation No.	5237
	Filing Date	July 6, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Hu, Lawrence W.
	Examiner.	Smith, Jeffrey A.
	Group Art Unit	3732
	Attorney Docket No.	GUID-012CON

Sir:

Applicants hereby request that the Amendment filed under 37 CFR 1.116 on May 14, 2003 be entered and considered. Applicants' representative telephoned the Examiner, the Examiner's SPE and the group receptionist to request the status of this case. The Examiner's SPE indicated that the Amendment filed May 14, 2003 has not yet been entered. Applicants are submitting a copy of the amendment as filed on May 14, 2003, including a copy of the postcard date-stamped by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, as proof of the filing of the amendment.

Applicants respectfully submit that no fees are due at this time, since the Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 was timely filed within 2 months of the date of the final Office Action. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time and Notice of Appeal to avoid abandonment of the present case, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2653, order number GUID-012CON.

Date: September 15, 2003

Respectfully submitted,
LAW OFFICE OF ALAN W. CANNON

By:

Alan W. Cannon

Registration No. 34,977

LAW OFFICE OF ALAN W. CANNON
834 South Wolfe Road
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
Telephone: (408) 736-3554
Facsimile: (408) 736-3564

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SEP 30 2003
GROUP 3600



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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	09/900,503
		Filing Date	July 6, 2001
		First Named Inventor	HU, LAWRENCE W.
		Group Art Unit	3732
		Examiner Name	SMITH, JEFFREY A.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	20	Attorney Docket Number	GUID-012CON

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (In duplicate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input type="checkbox"/> PTO form 1449 (10 pgs.) postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Documents	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual Name	ALAN W. CANNON, Reg. No. 34,977	RECEIVED	RECEIVED
Signature		SEP 30 2003	SEP 25 2003
Date	May 14, 2003	GROUP 3600 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700	

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Typed or printed name	Maria J. Souza	Date	May 14, 2003
Signature			

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COPY

PTO/SB/17 (10-01)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2003

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT	(\$ 120.00)
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METHOD OF PAYMENT

- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit overpayments to:
Deposit Account Number 50-0815
Deposit Account Name Bozicevic, Field & Francis LLP
- Charge Any Additional Fee Required
Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17
- Applicant Claims small entity status.
See 37 CFR 1.27

2. Payment Enclosed:

Check Credit Card Money Order Other

FEE CALCULATION

2. BASIC FILING FEE

Fee Code	Large Entity Fee (\$)	Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
101	740	201	370	Utility filing fee	
106	330	206	165	Design filing fee	
107	510	207	255	Plant filing fee	
108	740	208	370	Reissue filing fee	
114	160	214	80	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1)					0.00

1. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
27 -25** = 2	x	18.00	= 36.00
Indep. Claims 7-6** = 1	x	84.00	= 84.00

Multiple Dependent =

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
103	18	203
		9
		Claims in excess of 20
102	84	202
		42
		Independent claims in excess of 3
104	280	204
		140
		Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
109	84	209
		42
		** Reissue independent claims over original patent
110	18	210
		9
		** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent
SUBTOTAL (2) \$ 120.00		

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above.*

Complete if Known			
Application Number			09/900,503
Filing Date			July 6, 2001
First Named Inventor			HU, LAWRENCE W.
Examiner Name			SMITH, JEFFREY A.
Group Art Unit			3625
Attorney Docket No.			GUID-012CON

FEE CALCULATION (continued)					
3. ADDITIONAL FEES					
Fee Code	Large Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105	130	205	65	Surcharge – late filing fee or oath	
127	50	227	25	Surcharge – late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139	130	139	130	Non-English specification	
147	2,520	147	2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
112	920*	112	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examination action	
113	1,840*	113	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115	110	215	55	Extension for reply within first month	
116	400	216	200	Extension for reply within second month	
117	920	217	460	Extension for reply within third month	
118	1,440	218	720	Extension for reply within fourth month	
128	1,960	228	980	Extension for reply within fifth month	
119	320	219	160	Notice of Appeal	
120	320	220	160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121	280	221	140	Request for oral hearing	
138	1,510	138	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140	110	240	55	Petition to revive – unavoidable	
141	1,280	241	640	Petition to revive – unintentional	
142	1,280	242	640	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143	460	243	230	Design issue fee	
144	620	244	310	Plant issue fee	
122	130	122	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
123	50	123	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
126	180	126	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581	40	581	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146	740	246	370	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
149	740	249	370	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
179	740	279	370	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
169	900	169	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other fee (specify) _____					
SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 0.00)					

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBMITTED BY					
Name (Print/Type)	Alan W. Cannon	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	34,977	Telephone	(408) 736-3554
Signature				Date	05/14/2003

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

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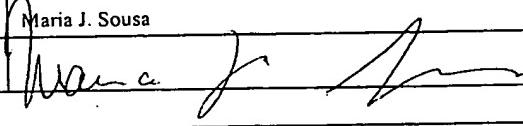
GROUP 3600

O 1 P 2
SEP 22 2003
JCA
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Typed or Printed Name	Maria J. Sousa
Signature	
	Date May 14, 2003

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116	Attorney Docket Confirmation No.	GUID012CON 5237
Address to: Box AF Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231	First Named Inventor	Lawrence W. Hu, et al.
	Application Number	09/900,503
	Filing Date	July 6, 2001
	Group Art Unit	3732
	Examiner Name	Smith, Jeffrey A.
	Title	SURGICAL RETRACTOR PLATFORM BLADE APPARATUS

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action dated March 14, 2003 for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before June 14, 2003. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Applicants have attached to this amendment a "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made" wherein all of the amendments requested here are put forth with underlining and bracketing.

Applicants submit that the amendments set forth below raise no new issues. Rather, the amendments place the claims in form for allowance or in better form for appeal. Entry of these amendments is thus respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS

AMENDMENTS
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GROUP 3600

Please amend claim 8 as follows:

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SEP 25 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

8. (Twice Amended) A surgical retractor blade, said retractor blade comprising a polymeric body having a first end adapted to attach to a separate, complete driving mechanism, a second end, a channel adapted to engage one side of an incision in a patient, and a rail extending along at least a portion of said polymeric body.

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

11. (Three Times Amended) A surgical retractor blade, said retractor blade comprising a body having a first end adapted to attach to a separate, complete driving mechanism, a second end, a channel adapted to engage one side of an incision in a patient, a rail extending along at least a portion of said body, and a plurality of open slots for receiving a suture therein, wherein said open slots have an internal wall and a suture locking member having a fixed end and a free end, said free end engaging said internal wall so as to clamp a suture placed between said free end and said internal wall.

Please enter the following new claims:

26 (New) A surgical retractor blade for attaching to a drive mechanism, said retractor blade comprising a body having a first end, a second end, a channel adapted to engage one side of an incision in a patient, a rail extending along at least a portion of said body, and a plurality of open slots for receiving a suture therein, wherein said open slots have an internal wall and a suture locking member having a fixed end and a free end, said free end engaging said internal wall so as to clamp a suture placed between said free end and said internal wall, wherein said suture locking member is substantially rigid and pivots about said fixed end.

27. (New) The surgical retractor of claim 26, further comprising a spring member biased against said suture locking member to forcibly urge said free end towards said internal wall.

REMARKS UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Formal Matters

Claims 1-6, 8-15 and 17-27 are pending after entry of the amendments set forth herein.

Claims 1-6, 8-15 and 17-25 were examined. Claims 8-11 and 21-23 were rejected. Claims 1-6, 14-20, 24 and 25 were allowed. Claims 12 and 13 were objected to.

Please replace claims 8 and 11 with the clean version provided above, and enter new claims 26 and 27 as provided above.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached is captioned "**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**".

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and remarks made herein.

No new matter has been added.

The Office Action

Initially, Applicants wish to extend their appreciation to the Examiner for the indicated allowance of claims 1-6, 14-20, 24 and 25, as well as the indicated allowable subject matter in claims 12 and 13.

Claims 8-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as being anticipated by Hancock (U.S. Patent No. 6,331,157 B2). The Examiner indicated that the recitations "wherein said first end is adapted for attaching to a separated, complete drive mechanism" did not patentably distinguish the claims from the structure disclosed by Hancock because the "wherein" clause was not considered to further distinguish the structure recited.

In response thereto, Applicants have amended each of claims 8 and 11 to delete the discussed "wherein" clause. In its place, in each instance, the claims have been amended to further define recited first end as "adapted to attach to a separate, complete driving mechanism". It is respectfully submitted that this language structurally distinguishes the present invention as recited by claims 8 and 11 (and claims depending therefrom) over Hancock, since Hancock's blades are always attached to the driver. Further, it is respectfully submitted that it has been held that in a claim that was directed to a kit of component parts capable of being assembled, the Court held that limitations such as "members adapted

to be positioned" and "portions . . . being resiliently dilatable whereby said housing may be slidably positioned" serve to precisely define present structural attributes of interrelated component parts of the claimed assembly. *In re Venezia*, 530 F.2d 956, 189 USPQ 149 (CCPA 1976). (see MPEP Section 2173.05(g)).

In view of the above amendment of claims 8 and 11, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 8-11 under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as being anticipated by Hancock (U.S. Patent No. 6,331,157 B2), as being no longer appropriate. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments do not raise a new issue, since they address the same previously addressed issue of structurally limiting the presently claimed invention to blades that may be attached to a separate, complete drive mechanism.

Claims 21-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Hancock in view of Brief (U.S. Patent No. 4,747,395). It is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable over the recited combination of references for at least the same reasons that claims 8 and 11 patentably define over Hancock, as discussed above, since Brief does nothing to overcome the deficiencies of Hancock in meeting the recitations of claims 8 and 11, and since each of claims 21-23 depends from one of claims 8 and 11.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Hancock in view of Brief (U.S. Patent No. 4,747,395), as being no longer appropriate.

With regard to newly submitted claims 26 and 27, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are clearly allowable in view of the Examiner's indication, in the Office Action dated June 19, 2002, that claims 12 and 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. New claims 26 and 27 correspond to claims 12 and 13 in such form.

PTO Forms 1449

Upon review of the file for this application, Applicants have discovered that not all of the documents that were submitted in the parent application (Application Serial No. 09/305,811, now U.S. Patent No. 6,283,912) have been submitted in the instant application. Accordingly, Applicants are submitting herewith PTO Forms 1449 listing the remainder of the documents which have not been submitted, but which were considered and cited during the prosecution of the parent application. Copies of the documents are not included, as having been already previously submitted in the parent

Atty Dkt. No.: GUID-012CON
USSN: 09/900,503

application. Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning an initialed copy of the enclosed PTO Forms 1449 to indicate consideration of the same.

Conclusion

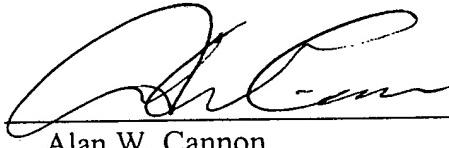
Applicants submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2653, order number GUID-012CON.

Respectfully submitted,
LAW OFFICE OF ALAN W. CANNON

Date: May 14, 2003

By:


Alan W. Cannon
Registration No. 34,977

LAW OFFICE OF ALAN W. CANNON
834 South Wolfe Road
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
Telephone: (408) 736-3554
Facsimile: (408) 736-3564

D:\DOCUMENTS\116 MENDMENT\GUID-012CON.doc

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 8 was amended above as follows:

8. (Twice Amended) A surgical retractor blade, said retractor blade comprising a polymeric body having a first end adapted to attach to a separate, complete driving mechanism, a second end, a channel adapted to engage one side of an incision in a patient, and a rail extending along at least a portion of said polymeric body[, wherein said first end is adapted for attaching to a separate, complete drive mechanism].

Claim 11 was amended above as follows:

11. (Three Times Amended) A surgical retractor blade, said retractor blade comprising a body having a first end adapted to attach to a separate, complete driving mechanism, a second end, a channel adapted to engage one side of an incision in a patient, a rail extending along at least a portion of said body, and a plurality of open slots for receiving a suture therein, wherein said open slots have an internal wall and a suture locking member having a fixed end and a free end, said free end engaging said internal wall so as to clamp a suture placed between said free [ended] end and said internal wall[, wherein said first end is adapted for attaching to a separate, complete drive mechanism].

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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SEP 22 2003

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

10

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/900,503
Filing Date	July 6, 2001
First Named Inventor	Hu et al.
Group Art Unit	3732
Examiner Name	Jeffery A. Smith

Attorney Docket Number

GUID-012CON

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Documents		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Pages, columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
	A1	452,131		Haughawout	
	A2	810,675		Richter	
	A3	2,296,793		Kirschbaum	
	A4	2,590,527		Fluck	
	A5	2,693,795		Grieshaber.	
	A6	2,863,444		Winsten.	
	A7	3,392,722		Jorgensen.	
	A8	3,683,926		Suzuki.	
	A9	3,720,433		Rosfelder.	
	A10	3,783,873		Jacobs.	RECEIVE!
	A11	3,858,926		Ottenhues.	SEP 25 2003
	A12	3,882,855		Schulle et al.	TECHNOLOGY CENTER R370
	A13	3,983,863		Janke et al.	
	A14	4,047,532		Phillips et al.	
	A15	4,049,002		Kletschka et al.	
	A16	4,052,980		Grams et al.	
	A17	4,226,228		Shin et al.	
	A18	4,230,119		Blum.	
	A19	4,306,561		de Medinaceli.	
	A20	4,366,819		Kaster.	
	A21	4,368,736		Kaster.	
	A22	4,428,368		Torii.	RECEIVED
	A23	4,461,284		Fackler.	SEP 30 2003
	A24	4,492,229		Grunwald	
	A25	4,637,377		Loop	
	A26	4,646,747		Windback.	
	A27	4,718,418		L'Esperance, Jr.	GROUP 3600

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	2	of	10	Attorney Docket Number	GUID-012CON
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A28	4,726,356		Feb., 1988	Santilli et al.	
A29	4,726,358		Feb., 1988	Brady.	
A30	4,736,749		Apr., 1988	Lundback.	
A31	4,747,395		May., 1988	Brief.	
A32	4,754,746		Jul., 1988	Cox.	
A33	4,803,984		Feb., 1989	Narayanan et al.	
A34	4,808,163		Feb., 1989	Laub	
A35	4,829,985		May., 1989	Couetil.	
A36	4,852,552		Aug., 1989	Chaux	
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered
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				Application Number	09/900,503
				Filing Date	July 6, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Hu et al.
				Group Art Unit	3732
				Examiner Name	Jeffery A. Smith
Sheet	3	of	10	Attorney Docket Number	GUID-012CON

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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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Sheet

4

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10

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Application Number	09/900,503
Filing Date	July 6, 2001
First Named Inventor	Hu et al.
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Sheet

5

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10

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Examiner Name	Jeffery A. Smith

Attorney Docket Number

GUID-012CON

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Documents		Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Office ³	Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
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	B2	0 293 760	A1	Dec., 1988	DE	
	B3	0 293 760	A2	Dec., 1988	DE	
	B4	0 293 760	A3	Dec., 1988	DE	
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	B19	WO	00/06041	Feb., 2000	WO.	
	B20	0 993 806	A2	April, 2000	EP	

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				Filing Date	July 6, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Hu et al.
				Group Art Unit	3732
				Examiner Name	Jeffery A. Smith
Sheet	6	of	10	Attorney Docket Number	GUID-012CQN

B21	WO 00/42921	Jul., 2000	WO.		
B22	WO 00/42935	Jul., 2000	WO.		
B23	WO 00/42936	Jul., 2000	WO.		
B24	WO 00/42937	Jul., 2000	WO.		

OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
	C1	Ancalmo, N. and J. L. Ochsner: "A Modified Sternal Retractor," Ann. Thorac. Surg. 21 (1976) 174.
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Sheet	7	of	10	Application Number	09/900,503
				Filing Date	July 6, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Hu et al.
				Group Art Unit	3732
				Examiner Name	Jeffery A. Smith
				Attorney Docket Number	GUID-012CON TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1370

C12	Benetti, F. J., et al., "Direct Coronary Surgery with Saphenous Vein Bypass Without Either Cardiopulmonary Bypass Graft or Cardiac Arrest," The Journal of Cardiovascular Surgery, vol. 26, No. 3, May-Jun, 1985, pp. 217-222.
C13	Bennetti, F. J., et al., "Direct Myocardial Revascularization Without Extracorporeal Circulation," Chest, vol. 100, No. 2, Aug. 1991, pp. 312-316.
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				Group Art Unit	3732
				Examiner Name	Jeffery A. Smith
Sheet	8	of	10	Attorney Docket Number	GUID-012CON TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

	C29	Fonger, J. D. et al., "Enhanced Preservation of Acutely Ischemic Myocardium with Trasseptal Left Ventricular Assist," The Annals of Thoracic Surgery, vol. 57, No. 3, Mar. 1994, pp. 570-575.	
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9

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Attorney Docket Number	GUID-012CON

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C47	Ochsner, JL, et al., "Surgical Management of Diseased Intracavitary Coronary Arteries," The Annals of Thoracic Surgery, vol. 38, No. 4, Jul. pp. 356-62, Oct. 1984.
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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Sheet 10 of 10

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/900,503
Filing Date	July 6, 2001
First Named Inventor	Hu et al.
Group Art Unit	3732
Examiner Name	Jeffery A. Smith
Attorney Docket Number	GUID-012CON

C65	Zumbro, G. L. et al., "A Prospective Evaluation of the Pulsatile Assist Device," The Annals of Thoracic Surgery, vol. 28, No. 2, Aug. 1979, pp. 269-273.
C66	60/117,333 Looney et al. (provisional) filed in Jan. 24, 1999.
C67	09/345,859 Looney et al. filed on Jul. 1, 1999.
C68	09/438,670 Parsons, et al. filed on Nov. 12, 1999.
C69	09/489,274 Brown et al. filed on Jan. 24, 2000.

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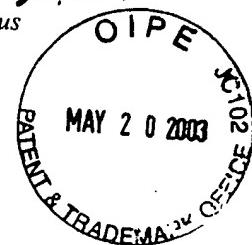
Inventor(s): Lawrence W. Hu, et al.

July 6, 2003

Title: *Surgical Retractor Platform Blade Apparatus*

Enclosures:

- ◆ Transmittal (1 pg.)
- ◆ Fee Transmittal (in duplicate) (2 pgs.)
- ◆ Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 (7 pages)
- ◆ PTO Forms 1449 (10 pages)

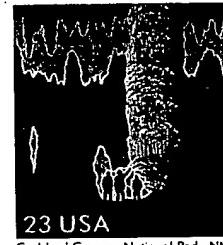


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